TRAINS OF TOMORROW ... TODAY

MAR 1988

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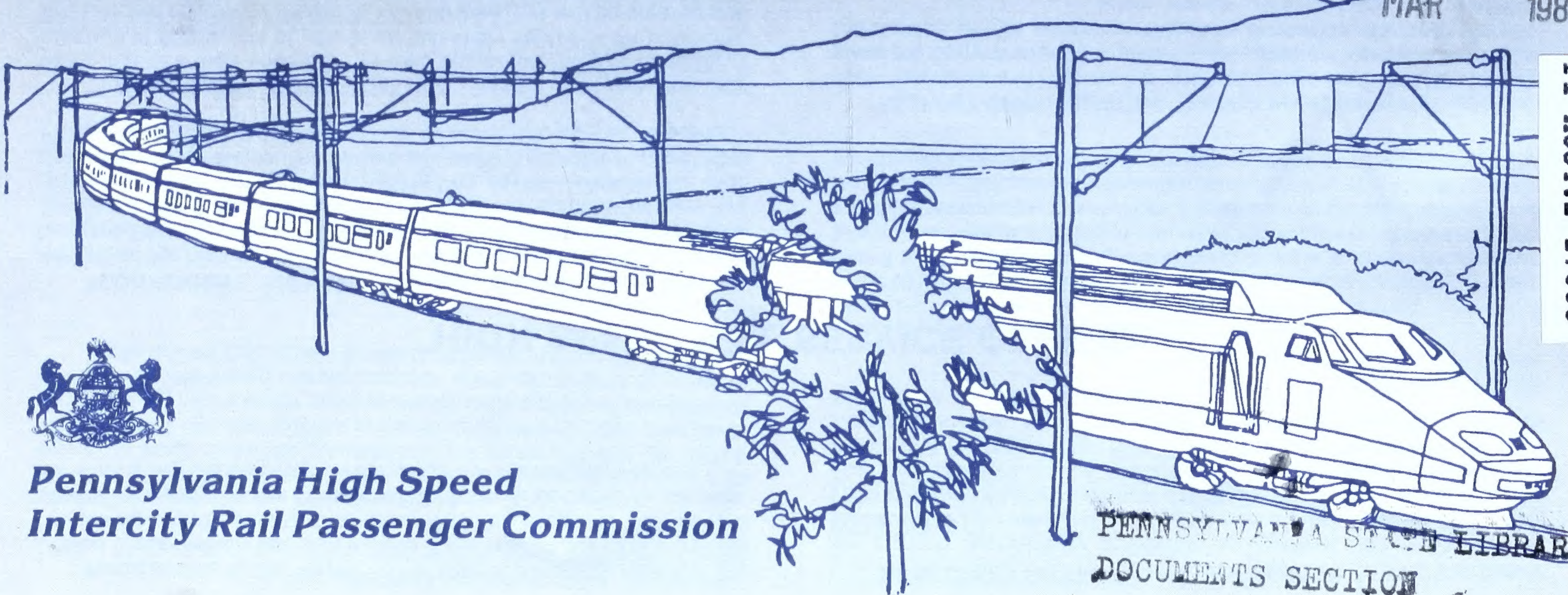

Pennsylvania High Speed Intercity Rail Passenger Commission

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Pennsylvania is the "keystone" of the old industrial region of the United States which has fallen behind the rest of the nation in high technology development. One answer to the problem, put forward several years ago by the Pennsylvania MILRITE Council,* is development of a high speed, high technology rail passenger system.

HIGH SPEED INTERCITY RAIL PASSENGER SERVICE is based on proven technology available to connect our major cities, transporting passengers from one end of the state to the other within approximately two and a quarter hours. High speed rail has the added allure of revitalizing an industry that has already contributed much to the economic development of the Commonwealth, while providing far-reaching economic benefits to numerous other industries.

HIGH SPEED RAIL SERVICE OFFERS:

***CONVENIENT, MODERN TRAVEL.** Exclusive use of track dedicated for high speed train use will ensure safe, reliable service between Pennsylvania's major cities. High speed rail service can save commuting time and expense for business and recreational travelers who can enjoy comfortable, hassle-free service directly to their downtown destinations. The system will make it possible to travel from Pittsburgh to Philadelphia in about two and one-quarter hours.

***EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES.** Design, construction and operation of a high speed rail system will mean the preservation or creation of thousands of jobs in almost every sector of the economy. Besides the estimated **89,500 to 140,000 jobs** that will be created during actual construction, jobs for Pennsylvanians will be created supplying everything from air conditioning, computers and security services to aluminum, steel, concrete, plumbing, fences, and wiring, as well as food services, insurance, refrigeration, paint, surveying services and escalators and explosives. In short, the establishment of high speed rail will give a widespread economic boost to hundreds of Pennsylvania industries.

Once in operation, the high speed rail line will also provide an ongoing source of employment for many workers as well as enhanced economic development opportunities for the state. **Between 6,300 and 9,800** permanent jobs will be required to staff and maintain the system. Additional jobs in the coal industry will be assured along with a new market for Pennsylvania coal, since most electric generation for the system will come from our vast coal reserves.

By taking a leadership role in the development of new rail technology, Pennsylvania, traditionally a leader in railroading, will introduce a major new high technology transportation system linking the major industrial and commercial centers of the state. This improved business mobility will support existing industry and make Pennsylvania a more attractive home for new business. In addition, it will create the economic vitality and growth to change the economic psychology of our older regions and spur growth in less developed areas.

***URBAN REVITALIZATION.** The "Center City Impact" of high speed rail service will bring new growth and life to Pennsylvania's urban economies. The influx of construction and travel dollars will give a boost to these downtown areas. Experience indicates that major rail terminals which provide frequent and rapid rail service generate a variety of economic benefits for urban areas.

***EXPORT OPPORTUNITIES.** The high-speed rail system could induce investment in high-speed rail technology in Pennsylvania and place the Commonwealth in an excellent position to capture a substantial portion of this potential market as it develops in other states.

***TOURISM.** By improving accessibility, the rail service could expand the geographic extent of the tourism market, which could in turn induce investment of new tourist attractions further expanding the size of the market. Additionally, high-speed rail itself is a tourist attraction which could draw more travelers to the state.

***MORE EFFICIENT FREIGHT MOVEMENT.** An opportunity may exist to share advanced technology and costs, resulting in more efficient operations for rail freight as well as high-speed rail passenger services.

***A CHANCE TO CAPITALIZE ON PENNSYLVANIA's ADVANTAGES.** High speed rail is ideally suited to areas of high population density. With two-thirds of Pennsylvania's 11.9 million citizens living within comfortable commuting distance of the line, the Commonwealth is in a unique position to successfuly pioneer high speed rail travel. The Commonwealth is already blessed with a well-established cross-state rail system and existing electrified rail track between Philadelphia and Harrisburg. Installation of high speed rail service could therefore be accomplished more quickly and inexpensively than might otherwise be possible.

THE CONCEPT OF HIGH SPEED RAIL SERVICE IS PICKING UP SPEED.

The state and federal governments have financed a comprehensive study to explore the feasibility of high speed rail in the Commonwealth. The concept also is gaining the enthusiastic support of business, labor, consumer and transportation groups across the state. Here is a sampling of comments about Pennsylvania's future as a high speed rail center:

"Besides securing work for our citizens in design, construction and operation of the line, high speed rail promises to bring work for future generations of Pennsylvanians. By becoming a pioneer in high

"As former chairman of the MILRITE Council, I enthusiastically support high speed rail for Pennsylvania because of its enormous promise of jobs for our state's men and women. As president of Pittsburgh National Bank, I am pleased to endorse an idea that will strengthen Pennsylvania's economy and its reputation as an industrial power. And as a Pittsburgher, I applaud a concept that will link the state and bring travelers safely and conveniently to our downtown region."

Robert C. Milsom
President, Pittsburgh National Bank

and operation of the line, high speed rail promises to bring work for future generations of Pennsylvanians. By becoming a pioneer in high speed rail travel, Pennsylvania is positioning itself to attract new industries that need top-notch business mobility."

Rep. Richard A. Geist, Chairman
Pennsylvania High Speed Intercity Rail
Passenger Commission

"Nearly every one of Pennsylvania's major industries can reap the economic and employment benefits of high speed rail service. It offers to put thousands of Pennsylvanians to work, using their skills and displaying their quality workmanship while making Pennsylvania a leader among the states in this exciting new phase of rail travel and technology."

Dick Thornburgh, Governor

"The time for this "travel of the future" is now. Pennsylvania is ideally suited for high speed rail service and we must build on the momentum already generated by the Commission and aggressively pursue high speed rail for Pennsylvania."

Arlen Specter
United States Senator

"Already, Commission Chairman Geist and his fellow Commission members have done a great deal to marshall support in the Pennsylvania State Legislature and within Pennsylvania's business, labor and transportation communities. Pennsylvania was also the first state to win federal financial support for the high speed rail study. With this kind of broad-based support and with Pennsylvania's railroad expertise to back it up, the success of high speed trains seems assured."

John Heinz
United States Senator

"High speed rail has the potential to spark a major upturn in employment in Pennsylvania. Jobs will be created for many thousands of our workforce in areas such as steel, aluminum, and allied fields as well as the highway construction trades and high tech industries involved in advanced communications, rail operations and ticketing. A fast, clean and efficient system will lessen our dependence on foreign oil and the urban impact will be significant, because all stations will be located in city centers."

The Hon. K. Leroy Irvis, Speaker
Pennsylvania House of Representatives

"The establishment of high speed rail will give Pennsylvania's basic industries a chance to show their mettle once again. The industries that built this state will be called upon to meet a new challenge and a new technology and I have no doubt that they will meet those challenges admirably with the trained and dedicated workforce that has contributed so much to our economy."

Edward Zemprelli, Minority Leader
Pennsylvania Senate

"High Speed Rail offers an opportunity to help revitalize and rejuvenate Pennsylvania's steel industry. Since thousands of miles of new track and structurals must be rolled for the system, hundreds of steel workers can look forward to a chance to demonstrate their skills while the world looks on. We welcome the challenge and the opportunity of High Speed Rail and see its establishment as a chance to showcase the excellence of Pennsylvania's steel industry.

Dennis Carney
Chairman and Chief Executive Officer
Wheeling Pittsburgh Steel Corporation

Robert C. Milsom
President, Pittsburgh National Bank

"High speed rail not only promises to increase coal consumption by opening up another new market for Pennsylvania coal, but enhances coal's reputation as a fuel for the future. Each year, tons of energy-efficient Pennsylvania coal will be needed to fuel electric generation for the high speed system, benefitting our coal industry and its workers."

John C. Shervinsky
President, Keystone Bituminous
Coal Association

"Pennsylvania has a long and rich tradition of excellence in rail travel. As home of the first turnpike, it is only natural that we build on that pioneering tradition and become leaders in this exciting new phase of rail travel. High speed rail will improve the quality of life in our state while proving to all the nation that business, labor and government can work in harmony to achieve a common goal."

Rick Hannegan
Chairman, Keystone Association
of Rail Passengers

"The economic benefits of high speed rail will run deep into Pennsylvania's industrial base and give a lift to almost every kind of industry we have. It will also supply jobs in Pennsylvania's growing computer and service businesses. But beyond the immediate benefits, high speed rail will make the state a leader in attracting the industries of the future."

Cliff Jones
President, Pennsylvania
Chamber of Commerce

".....we will not miss the high speed system if we do not build it. What we will miss will be the busy, prosperous, balanced American society that could have been built with its indispensable help. What we will miss. . .is a revitalized, diversified American industrial society in the northeast...."

Albro Martin, Harvard University Graduate
School of Business Administration;
testimony before the U.S. Joint
Economic Committee of Congress,
July 23, 1981

"Most Americans do not have any idea of what a good passenger train system could be. I visualize the introduction of this new generation of high speed rail service - which is distinctly a new technology - to be as different as the introduction of jets (to aviation). There was nothing wrong with what we had for airplanes, but the jets made a whole new world. They built runways, new pressurized airplane bodies – and everything changed all at the same time. It was a total jump. Well, that's what this new generation of railroads will do."

L. Fletcher Prouty, former Senior
Director of Amtrak

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* The Pennsylvania MILRITE Council is an independent agency created by the Pennsylvania General Assembly to foster the economic development of the Commonwealth through the cooperative efforts of labor, business and government. The acronym MILRITE stands for "Make Industry and Labor Right in Today's Economy" and is derived from the millright, who in earlier days designed, erected and equipped the mills and factories of America, paving the way for the nation's industrial growth and prosperity.

Employment figures based on a preliminary estimate of economic impacts for the Pennsylvania High Speed Rail Feasibility Study, by Parsons Brinckerhoff/Gannett Fleming in association with Ernst and Whinney.

"The members of the United Transportation Union enthusiastically endorse the concept of high speed rail service. It will offer us an opportunity to display our skills and our hospitality to the nation's travelers."

Everett W. Croyle, Chairman and
State Legislative Director
United Transportation Union

"The Federal Department of Transportation was very pleased to assist in the study of high speed rail for Pennsylvania. Recognizing Pennsylvania's potential as a pioneer in this new technology as well as its deep historical roots in the rail industry, it was with great pleasure that the Reagan Administration lent its support to the undertakings of the High Speed Rail Commission."

Drew Lewis, former US Transportation Secretary

"Just as the construction of the nation's first dedicated intercity highway in Pennsylvania provided a much-needed boost to the state's contractors and its construction industry, the construction of a high speed rail system would bring enormous benefits to the contractors of today. They have the expertise, the know-how and the experience to do a really first-class job which would once again put Pennsylvania first in the nation's record books."

Henry Heck, President Associated Pennsylvania Constructors

"Pennsylvania's coal producers and energy providers can look forward to the establishment of high speed rail service with great optimism because it offers them the chance to serve yet another consumer efficiently and economically. It is a task they will meet with enthusiasm and dedication."

Robert Gleason, Commission member

"You know, and I know that high-speed rail is coming. The question is where, when, and what roles we will all play."

—John H. Riley
Federal Railroad
Administrator

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Pennsylvania High Speed
Intercity Rail Passenger
Trains of tomorrow-- today

PRESS COMMENTS:

This is not an idle dream. High-speed trains have been carrying passengers from point to point in Japan for 18 years -- and profitably. They are also popular in Europe. A French train cruises at 170 miles per hour between Paris and Lyon. An experimental German train floats above the track in an electromagnetic field and is capable of speeds of 250 m.p.h. Ten states, including Pennsylvania, are studying proposals for high-speed transportation. The others are Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Ohio, Wisconsin, New York, Texas, Florida and California.

LANCASTER INTELLIGENCER JOURNAL
September 20, 1983

The time for "mag lev" is now.... We believe high speed rail provides an option that must be seriously considered, not simply for what it might do for our local economy, but for what it could do for our nation.

ALTOONA MIRROR
February 10, 1983

Pennsylvania has started the transit wheels moving toward the right track... As the interstate highway program, one of the monuments of the Eisenhower administration, punched life into the heavy construction and steel industries three decades ago, so would a similar effort in rapid rail transit be a boon to the economy. The sooner the better. The economy certainly needs punched up.

BEAVER COUNTY TIMES
January 5, 1983

The state's tentative steps in exploring the possibility of building a high-speed intercity rail system mark the beginning of what could become an important element in Pennsylvania's re-emergence as a respected and innovative force in American life. No one should underestimate the pitfalls that lie ahead if the idea is to become reality, but this small step is a sign that the state retains the ability to project a noble vision.

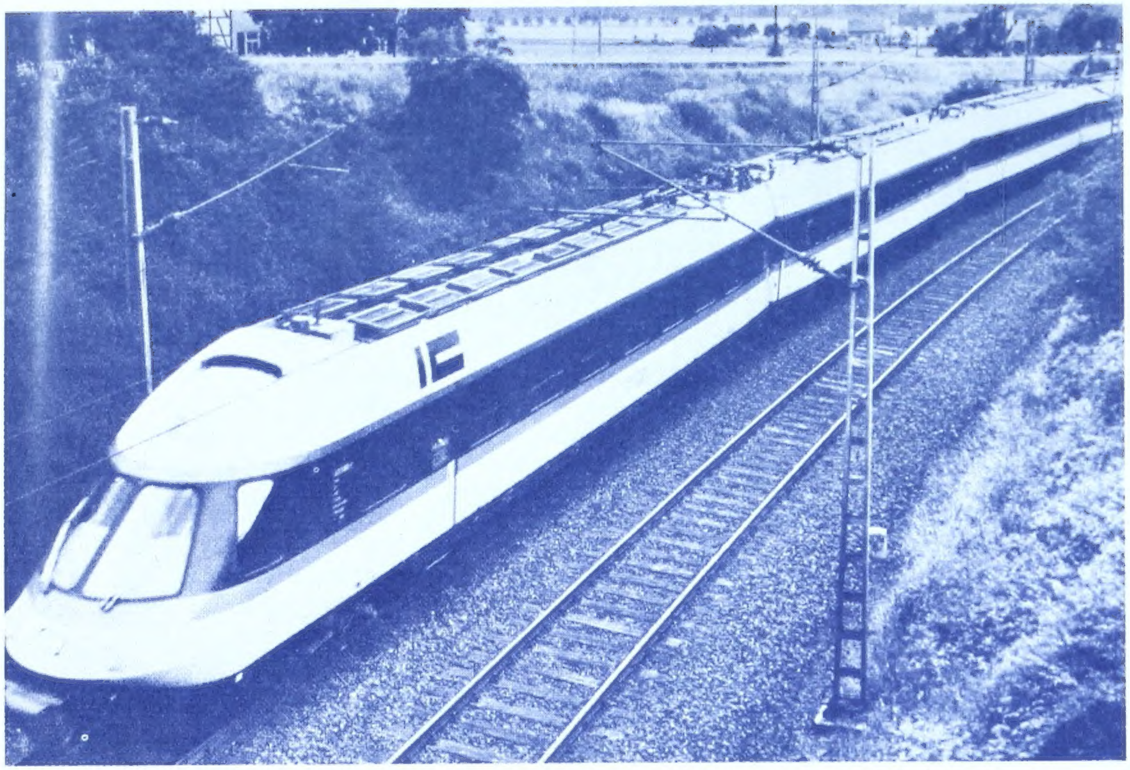
HARRISBURG PATRIOT NEWS
May 15, 1983

Robots, computers, high-speed rail service. In the world of science-fiction become reality, Pennsylvania has the unique potential to be a leader.

ALTOONA MIRROR
April 5, 1983

They are the hot transportation item of the 1980's: sleek, high-speed passenger trains that cruise at 160 m.p.h. or more -- so fast, so reliable, that they might even lure the inveterate American motorist from his car. Right now, at least 10 states, including Pennsylvania, are studying proposals for "bullet trains" or some other type of high-speed rail system, which have proved enormously successful in Europe and Japan.

PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER
September 19, 1983



For more information about the future of high speed rail travel in Pennsylvania, contact: The Pennsylvania High Speed Intercity Rail Passenger Commission, House P.O. Box 240, Main Capitol Building, Harrisburg, PA 17120. (717-787-8748)
Scott Casper 787 3921

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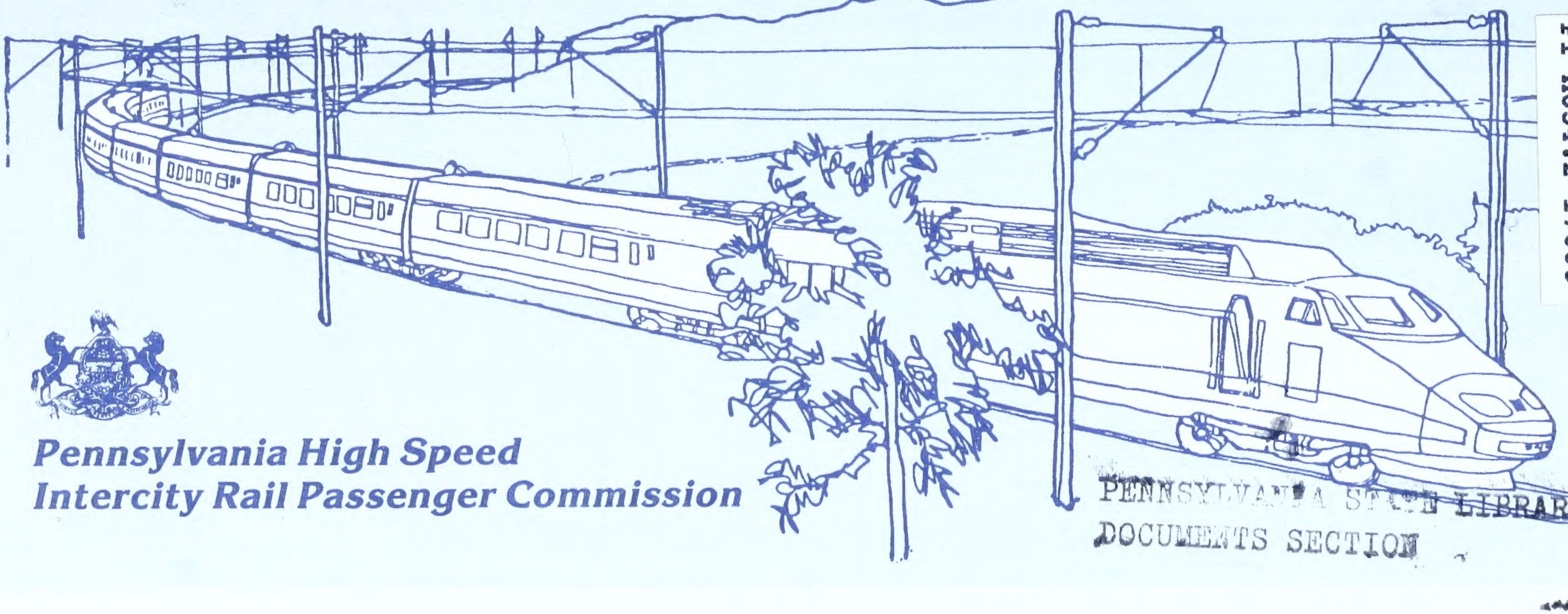

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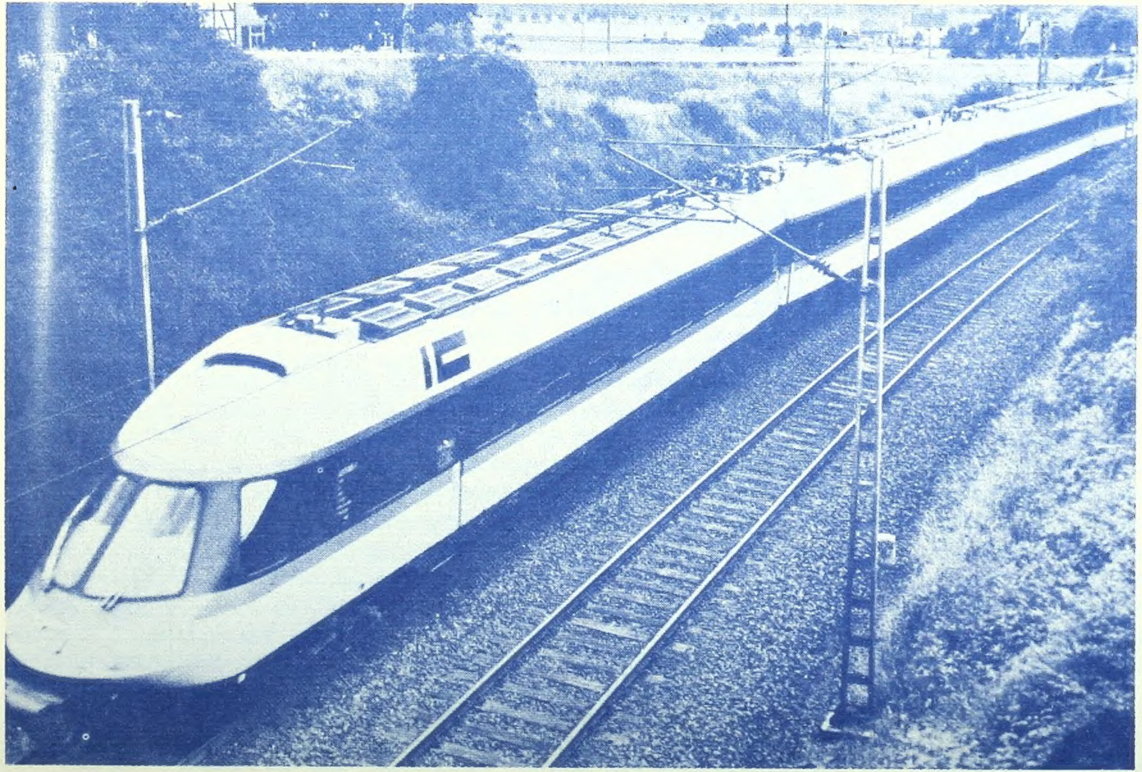

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